Figure 324: Goal seek result dialog

7) Click **Yes** to enter the goal value into the variable cell. The result is shown in Figure 325, indicating that a capital requirement of $200,000 is needed to achieve a $15,000 return.

Figure 325: Result of goal seek in worksheet

✅ **Note**

Not every goal seek problem succeeds in returning a good result. It depends on the formula used, goal value, and initial value. The goal seek algorithm iterates internally several times converging to the goal.

If the goal seek is unsuccessful, Calc displays an information dialog reporting the failure. This dialog offers the choice of inserting the closest value into the variable cell. Press **Yes** or **No** as required.

Using the Solver

The Solver amounts to a more elaborate form of goal seek, which allows you to solve mathematical programming or optimization problems. A mathematical programming problem is concerned with minimizing or maximizing a function subject to a set of constraints. Such problems arise in many scientific, engineering, business, and other disciplines. A full discussion of mathematical programming is beyond the scope of this guide and the interested reader is referred to the relevant Wikipedia page at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mathematical_optimization, which provides high level information and references to more detailed materials.

Currently Calc offers the following selection of solver engines:

- DEPS (Differential Evolution & Particle Swarm Optimization) Evolutionary Algorithm.
- SCO (Social Cognitive Optimization) Evolutionary Algorithm.
- LibreOffice CoinMP Linear Solver.
- LibreOffice Linear Solver.
- LibreOffice Swarm Non-Linear Solver (experimental).